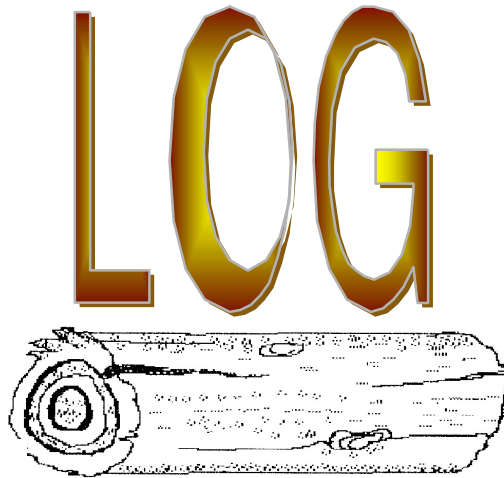




FOUNDED 1947



Web:

<http://www.westparkradiops.org>

Email: w8vm@arrrl.net

CLUB'S W8VM SKCC #12111

August – September 2025
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WEST PARK RADIOPS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



WEST PARK NEWS *

Monday night nets are on the NODXA's repeater at 8 p.m. Listen or check in. Join the fun. We thank the Northern Ohio DX Association for our use of their repeater, W8DXA, 147.36+ (107.2). Our meeting schedule varies. Pay attention to our opportunities to announce meeting changes.



UPCOMING CONTESTS AND ACTIVITIES*...

(sourced from WA7BNM and ARRL information)

Aug 2 North American QSO Party, CW
Aug 9 50 MHz Fall Sprint
Aug 16 North American QSO Party, SSB
Aug 23 Ohio QSO Party
Aug 30 U.S. Islands QSO Party
Sep 6 Ohio State Parks on the Air
Sep 13 ARRL September VHF Contest
Sep 21 North American Sprint, RTTY
Sep 28 CLEVELAND HAMFEST

* Subject to Change,
Including order of events,
locations and times.

LOOK FOR 6M OPENINGS

Thursday Evenings FT4 Contest

*Subject to change



WEST PARK RADIOPS MEETINGS & PROGRAMS FOR 2025*

Aug 12 } Canary's Restaurant 11:30 a.m.*
Sept 9 } Lunch and short business meeting

ARRL BOARD MEETING ACTIONS OF NOTE...

(ARRL July 22, 2025)

The ARRL Board of Directors met in Windsor, Connecticut, for its Second Meeting, July 18 –19, 2025. ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, presided over the meeting.

Prior to the Board meeting, Board committees met on July 17 with the following actions highlighted below:

The Programs & Services Committee and Headquarters staff from the Radiosport Department, on the heels of creating the **DXCC Trident award** in January, are moving ahead with the creation of another new DXCC award — **10-Band DXCC** — which will recognize those who achieve DXCC on all bands from 6 meters to 160 meters (excluding 60 meters). Higher achievement endorsements can be earned at the 200, 300, and Honor Roll levels, like the DXCC Trident. The 10-Band DXCC award challenges participants in the DXCC program to establish station capabilities and operator skills for dealing with myriad band conditions in pursuing DXCC across all 10 bands.

The Historical Committee met to review the ARRL Heritage Museum’s online collection, Radio Alpha, which currently features more than 3,000 images and documents. The repository is now online and can be found at www.arrl.org/arrl-museum-and-research-library.

The Board approved a year-long celebration of the semiquincentennial of the United States. This will include commemorative **ARRL US250 Worked All States** awards from contacts made during 2026, as well as other on-air activity. The Board approved making 2026 the Year of the Club and passed other motions in support of the initiative including: Creation of a book featuring high-performance clubs.

ARRL Files Comments to Protect 70-Centimeter Amateur Band...

(ARRL 07/22/2025)

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® has filed comments with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to oppose part of an application that would impact the 70-centimeter amateur band for telemetry, tracking and command (TT&C) of satellites. The application, from AST & Science, LLC (AST), requests “unprecedented authorization to 430-440 MHz for a constellation totaling 248 satellites to communicate with five ground stations using up to five channels with up to 256 kHz bandwidth.”

The formal opposition, filed by ARRL’s Washington Counsel, asserts that the permission AST seeks to use the 430 – 440 MHz band “should be denied because AST does not demonstrate need for TT&C spectrum beyond that available within existing allocations.”

The filing goes on to highlight just how unprecedented the request is:

The 430 – 440 MHz band is not allocated domestically or internationally for the requested space-to-Earth and Earth-to-space satellite TT&C operations. As others already have noted in this proceeding, signals in this band from AST’s current 5-satellite constellation have been observed throughout the world, including in the United States,

notwithstanding that the satellites are authorized to communicate only with five ground stations well outside the United States. From the operations by the current five satellites, it appears that the satellites at times have transmitted continuously in the 430 –440 MHz band throughout their orbit, not just when in communication with one of the authorized ground stations. This activity defeats the purpose of preventing interference in the United States by limiting operations in this band to ground stations distant from the United States. Authorizing an additional 243 satellites to use this band, which would result in multiple satellites over the U.S. at all times, would effectively usurp this band’s allocated use.

The 70-centimeter band is also used in emergency communications. As recently as early July, ARRL volunteers serving in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) made headlines for providing critical communications in flood-ravaged areas of the Texas Hill Country. Allowing the 70-centimeter band to become overrun with TT&C operations could impact the ability for the Amateur Radio Service to be used in future disasters. “TT&C operations in the 430 – 440 MHz band are capable of causing harmful interference to radio amateur communications, including to amateur satellites operating in the 435-438 MHz subband,” the comments state.

The comments go on to outline why the application would be non-compliant with the ITU Radio Regulations Treaty.

Reply comments to the application are due by August 5, 2025. ARRL will continue to promote and protect amateur radio spectrum.



“YUK” NEW CANADIAN RAC SECTION...

From:

<https://www.radioclub-carc.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Newsletter-July-2025.pdf>

The RAC, Canada’s Amateur Radio association, has created a new section. As of July 1, 2025 RAC will recognize Yukon Territory as its own section. Prior to July 1, Yukon was lumped together with Nunavut and Northwest Territories in a section called Territories (TER). Contesters need to carefully read the rules for any contest in which Canadian Amateur Radio Operators participate. If the rules call for the exchange of ARRL/RAC Sections read carefully to determine which to the several RAC Section versions will be used.

Some contests use 13 RAC Sections: NS, QC, ON, MB, SK, AB, BC, NT, NB, NL, NU, YT, PE.

Some contests use 14 RAC Sections: NS, QC, GH, ONE, ONN, ONS, MB, SK, AB, BC, NB, NU, TER, PE.

And now we have the possibility of some contests using 15 RAC Sections: NS, QC, GH, ONE, ONN, ONS, MB, SK, AB, BC, NB, NL, TER, YUK, PE.

Read the rules. Update your contest logging software.

(N3FJP was notified by this editor. – de AF8C)



“RM NOISE” FILTERING OUT NOISE WITH A.I. ...

“RM noise” filtering demonstrations are impressive:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxJoKnnhkPo&t=9s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxIc5AIUVL4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I34cA3mTIII>

<https://ournetplace.com/rm-noise/documentation/>



WSJT-X ASSISTED WITH LOGGING AND TIME CONTROL...

FIRST, for WSJT-X: **read the manual!** It's in your WSJT-X installation folder.

CONTROLLING TIME:

NTP for Windows

<https://www.meinbergglobal.com/english/sw/ntp.htm>

<https://www.dxzone.com/how-to-sync-your-computer-clock/>

Dimension 4 (believed to be)

https://download.cnet.com/download/dimension-4/3000-2094_4-10039998.html

Bkttimesync

<https://www.dxzone.com/dx33944/bkttimesync.html>

JTSync

<https://www.dxzone.com/dx33937/jtsync.html>

Nettime for Windows

<https://www.dxzone.com/dx33942/nettime-for-windows.html>

OTHER PURPOSES, LOGGING, ETC.:

Gridtracker

<https://gridtracker.org/>

Ham Radio Deluxe

<https://www.hamradiodeluxe.com/>

JTDX

<https://sourceforge.net/projects/jtdx/>

JTALERT

<https://hamapps.com/>

FST4 AND FST4W FOR POSSIBLY WORKING 160 AND 80...

(from the WSJT-X 2.7.0 User Guide)

FST4W is designed for similar purposes, but especially for use on LF and MF bands. It includes optional sequence lengths as long as 30 minutes and reaches sensitivity thresholds as low as -45 dB. Users with internet access can automatically upload WSPR and FST4W reception reports to a central database called [WSPRnet](https://www.wsprnet.org/) that provides a mapping facility, archival storage, and many other features.

Do not confuse FST4 with FT4, which has a very different purpose! FST4 is designed primarily for making weak-signal 2-way QSOs on the LF and MF bands. T/R periods from 15 s up to 1800 s are available. Longer T/R periods provide better sensitivity only if Tx and Rx frequency instability and channel Doppler spread are small enough so that received signals remain phase coherent over periods spanning several transmitted symbols. Generally speaking, Rx and Tx frequency changes during the transmission and channel Doppler spread should each be small compared to the symbol keying rate shown for each T/R duration in Table 7 within section [Protocol Specifications](#). For example, the keying rate for the 1800 s T/R period is 0.089 Baud, so successful operation using this T/R **length requires Tx and Rx frequency stability better than 0.089 Hz over the duration** of the 1800 s transmission in addition to channel Doppler spread smaller than **0.089 Hz**.

FST4W is used in the same way as WSPR, but FST4W has significant advantages for use on the 2200 m and 630 m bands. By default the central **Rx Freq** is 1500 Hz and **F Tol** is 100 Hz, so the active decoding range is 1400 to 1600 Hz. However, for added flexibility you can select different center frequencies and **F Tol** values. We expect that usage conventions will soon be established for FST4W activity on 2200 and 630 m.

(Note: right or wrong, the editor here thinks it might be useful on 160 and 80m. Note that your radio must have extremely small frequency drift rates, especially for transmission times that are very long. – de AF8C.)

USB NOISE ISOLATOR MODULE...

You can search the Internet for a “USB NOISE ISOLATOR” in the shape of a flashdrive which will allow you to work several of the digital amateur radio modes with your transceiver. Typical voltage isolation is up to 1500 V. Ground loops are removed because of the isolation. Keeps up with WSJT-X modes as if the module is not even there. Be in mind that these digital modes are really digital. You can’t run a microphone signal through USB unless it is somehow digitized first. My experience from using such an isolator is that the USB link continues to function perfectly. An added benefit: leave the isolator module installed as long as you are going to continue with digital modes day after day and insertion of a USB cable into the module saves wear and tear on the USB connector in the PC.

FLASHDRIVES CAN FAIL!...

Yes, flash drives can fail due to age, primarily because they have a finite number of write/erase cycles. While simply storing data on a flash drive for a long time without use is unlikely to cause failure, frequent writing and erasing of data will eventually wear out the drive's memory cells. Even without usage, flash memory can gradually lose its ability to retain data over a very long period (years or decades), though this is less of a concern than write/erase cycle limitations.



THE DX SCENE...

(Courtesy of the NG3K website <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>)

Call, Start Date End Date, DXCC Entity

TF,2025 Jul26,2025 Aug09,Iceland
 JD1BRC,2025 Aug02,2025 Aug08,Ogasawara
 TO3K,2025 Aug02,2025 Aug10,Mayotte
 Z81D,2025 Aug02,2025 Aug31,South Sudan
 ZF2GA,2025 Mar08,2025 Aug10,Cayman Is
 E51KEE,2025 Aug03,2025 Aug18,South Cook Is
 V47JA,2025 Aug04,2025 Aug13,St Kitts & Nevis
 VP2V,2025 Aug08,2025 Aug11,Br Virgin Is
 TK,2025 Aug08,2025 Aug15,Corsica
 KH9,2025 Aug08,2025 Aug22,Wake Is
 OY,2025 Aug12,2025 Aug20,Faroe Is
 OX,2025 Aug15,2025 Aug29,Greenland
 TG4,2025 Aug16,2025 Aug23,Guatemala
 OG0C,2025 Aug17,2025 Aug24,Aland Is
 SV5,2025 Aug17,2025 Aug25,Dodecanese
 T8,2025 Aug18,2025 Aug22,Palau
 TY2AA,2025 Aug18,2025 Sep07,Benin
 3G1P,2025 Aug18,2025 Aug23,Chile
 OJ0MN,2025 Aug23,2025 Aug31,Market Reef
 VK2,2025 Aug27,2025 Sep13,Lord Howe Is
 9X2AW,2025 Sep01,2025 Sep22,Rwanda
 T88DZ,2025 Sep02,2025 Sep07,Palau
 T88DF,2025 Sep02,2025 Sep11,Palau
 PJ7K,2025 Sep12,2025 Sep22,Sint Maarten
 JW6VDA,2025 Sep12,2025 Sep22,Svalbard
 SV5,2025 Sep13,2025 Sep25,Dodecanese
 OH0,2025 Sep15,2025 Sep19,Aland Is
 FP5KE,2025 Sep15,2025 Sep26,St Pierre & Miquelon
 PJ2,2025 Sep16,2025 Sep28,Curacao
 V4,2025 Sep16,2025 Sep28,St Kitts & Nevis
 VK2,2025 Sep19,2025 Oct03,Christmas Is
 V6D,2025 Sep22,2025 Oct06,Micronesia
 JW0B,2025 Sep24,2025 Sep28,Svalbard
 JD1,2025 Sep27,2025 Oct02,Ogasawara
 S79,2025 Sep28,2025 Oct12,Seychelles
 5X2I,2025 Sep29,2025 Oct10,Uganda
 JW,2025 Oct08,2025 Oct13,Svalbard
 PY0FB,2025 Oct08,2025 Oct15,Fernando de Noronha
 J38LD,2025 Oct08,2025 Oct15,Grenada
 E51MWA,2025 Oct09,2025 Oct20,North Cook Is
 PJ6Y,2025 Oct17,2025 Oct29,Saba & St Eustatius
 D2A,2025 Oct18,2025 Oct26,Angola
 FW5K,2025 Oct20,2025 Nov07,Wallis & Futuna Is
 3C2MD,2025 Oct29,2025 Nov10,Equatorial Guinea
 5R8TT,2025 Oct29,2025 Nov12,Madagascar
 9U1RU,2025 Oct29,2025 Nov19,Burundi
 T88HR,2025 Nov01,2025 Nov06,Palau
 ZL7,2025 Nov03,2025 Nov20,Chatham Is
 YJ0GC,2025 Nov22,2025 Dec05,Vanuatu
 TO9W,2025 Nov30,2025 Dec12,St Martin

2025 ELECTED CLUB OFFICERS

President
 Kevin Brandstetter **K8VUS**
 (216) 672-2289
Vice President
 Vicki Mate **K8VGM**
Secretary
 Glenn Williams **AF8C**
 (440) 934-5566
Treasurer
 Ann Wadsworth **KA8ZEP**

Fifth Board Member
 Stephen Kinford **N8WB**
 (216) 702-8384

COMMITTEES

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 Safety Officer
OPEN
 W8VM License Trustee
N8WB
 ARRL VE'S
AF8C, N8WB, W8MET, KC8FOS
 NET MANAGER
Need a Volunteer
 CONTESTS, SATELLITES
N8WS and N8WB
 PROPERTY CUSTODIAN
N8WS
 8TH AREA BURO LETTER MGR.
AF8C (8V)
 PROGRAMS
OPEN
 EDITOR, WEBMASTER
AF8C